



THE STANDARD

OCTOBER 27, 2023

VOLUME 24

ISSUE 16

**PRESIDENT
GRAHAM DRAKE**

**REPORTER
JIM DAVIS**

**EDITOR
ASHA PAUL**



MEETING NOTES

It was a high energy crowd this morning that provided today's meeting chair Steve Dunk a particular challenge to bring to order. He quickly enlisted Phil H to lead us in O Canada, which was the beginning of a more controlled agenda. Chair Steve referred to former MP Jody Wilson-Raybould and her efforts towards reconciliation.

Steve welcomed our guests, Derek Wilkinson (guest of Mark Rowe), Jo-Ann Davis and our speaker, George Brookman from the Downtown Club.

After breakfast, our Chair took a few tries to get our attention from fellowship and to the program at hand. Starting with a motion from Roger to approve a \$1,500 donation from Community Services to the Poppy Fund, all were in favour.

PROGRAM

Doug M introduced our guest speaker by giving a few highlights of business and community achievements. George's was recognized for in his recent Order of Canada induction.

In George's usual fashion, he warmed us up with a couple of stories, including how much of a positive impact Rotary has on our worldwide community. He also made references to Canada's history and those that served, suggesting that many of us know or have known veterans and their families impacted by war. He recommended "Forgotten History" by Conrad Black as worth reading.

His message was the history of Calgary's Field of Crosses, what it means and how it impacts not only the families of those who died, but the entire community. From November 1 – 11 each year, there are crosses on Memorial Drive, each one representing a member of the military from Southern Alberta who died serving our country. Each cross bears a name, a flag, and a poppy to commemorate their sacrifice. And for most, there is a story for each one, provided by the family, or from research done by local students.

The Field of Crosses was the idea of Murray McCann who had seen crosses displayed in Rome, Georgia, honouring their fallen citizens. Mr. McCann made a significant contribution of effort and a large financial donation to create what we have today. Mr. McCann and his family continue to support the Field of Crosses. Each day there is a sunrise and sunset service, open to the public, and on November 10th there is the Night of Lights where candles are lit and remain lit overnight.

FRIDAYS 7 AM. GUNN'S DAIRY BARN, HERITAGE PARK, 1900 HERITAGE DRIVE SW, CALGARY



MINUTES

Stan promoting “**Guess Who is Coming to Dinner**” and reminding us to sign up by Nov 3. His recent email had all the info. Brad W gave us an update on the **Move for Polio**. We are 82% of the way to our financial goal donations to the **Polio Fund** and way over our goal for activities! Sheila was promoting the Virtual Reality event “**Writing on Stone**” in conjunction with the Indigenous Youth Society to be held Nov 14. There are only 20 spots available. See her recent email. Jamie kicked off our annual **Wines Of The World raffle** by promoting this fundraiser and distributing tickets. We need a sell out to raise the anticipated \$15,000 to fund our Club projects. Last but not least, John reminded us of **Rotary Remembers** on Nov 11 (no meeting Nov 10) and he needs a couple more volunteers for the **Ronald McDonald House dinner** on Nov 13.

PRESIDENT’S REMARKS

Chair Steve had our total attention with his closing message, courtesy of Prez Graham. In the week ahead, take of yourself, and if you are able, take care of someone else.

PROGRAM (CONTD)

There is a service on November 11th to remember those who fought and died for their country.

In 2018, a registered charity was created to provide for the Field of Crosses to ensure its sustainability. The \$250,000 cost each year is funded by this Society. Donations can be made through Canada Helps.

It was an impactful presentation, and all are encouraged to visit the Field of Crosses to pay their respects. Lest we Forget!

Doug M thanked George on behalf of the Club.

HAPPY BUCKS

Happy Bucks galore to enrich our Club treasury, some in cash, some in promises for online transfers! We were happy for George’s presentation, members in Puerto Vallarta visiting our supported projects at the school and the water filtration initiative, as well as a good deal of fellowship, the visit to the Tsut’ina Cultural Museum, some travel, our visitors, and of course, a concert in Vegas.

DUTY ROSTER

NOVEMBER 3, 2023

GREETER JAMIE POWELL
DOOR SALES..... MITCHELL RAVVIN
INTRODUCE & THANK..... N/A
REPORTER..... ROGER SONTAG

**If you are unable to fulfil your duties
please find your own replacement.**

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

ELAINE DUNCAN.(BRIAN G)..... NOV 5

ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES

GRAHAM DRAKE (27YRS)..... NOV 1
DAVID MCKEOWN (22 YRS) NOV 1
ART SUMNER (12 YRS) NOV 1
VANITA SAPRE (4 YRS) NOV 1